



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/828,991	04/21/2004	David M. Hilbert	FXPL-01098US0	5500
23910 7590 06/08/2009 FLIESLER MEYER LLP 650 CALIFORNIA STREET 14TH FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108				
EXAMINER				
PHAM, LUU T				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2437				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/08/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/828,991

Applicant(s)

HILBERT ET AL.

Examiner

LUU PHAM

Art Unit

2437

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-84 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-84 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/13/2009 has been entered.
2. As per instant Amendment, Claims 85-90 were previously canceled; Claims 1, 29, and 57 are independent claims. Claims 1-84 have been examined and are pending.

This Action is made Non-FINAL.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicants' arguments with respect to claims 1-84 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicants' arguments in the instant Amendment, filed on 04/13/2009, with respect to limitations listed below, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants' arguments:

- a. *"Gong does not update the changes back to the original file inside the file sharer's private network based on the modifications to the proxy,"*
- b. *"Gong is completely silent regarding the proxy server using the file sharer's credentials to update the original copy, as defined in amended Claim 1."*

The Examiner disagrees due to the following reasons:

- a. Gong does disclose update the changes back to the original file (*par. 0009 and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; the IMS will apply document management rules/commands (such as Edit, Delete, Modify, etc.) specified by the email sender on the stored attached files; recipient is able to modify the attachment files through either email or through provided Client Information Management Web Interface; IMS maintain one updated master copy; all previous versions will be compressed and stored until deletion*) inside the file sharer's private network based on the modifications to the proxy (*par. 0009; ; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can be installed inside or outside companies' firewalls*)
- b. Gong does disclose the proxy server using the file sharer's credentials to update the original copy (*par. 0009, 0033-0034, and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; the Information Management Server will apply document management rules/commands (such as Edit, Delete, Modify, Link, Associate, etc.) specified by the e-mail sender on the stored attachment files; recipient is able to modify the attachment files through either email or through provided Client Information Management Web Interface; IMS maintain one updated master copy; all previous versions will be compressed*

and stored until deletion; senders and recipients have to login to the IMS to perform modification of attached documents via IMS interface; that implies attached documents are updated after using sender's/recipient's credentials; since senders and recipients update attached documents via IMS interface; that implies IMS has accessed, retrieved, and updated the documents).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. **Claims 1-84 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph**, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- **Regarding claims 1, 29, and 57;** claims 1, 29, and 57 recite the limitation *“remote user is allowed to modify the proxy representation directly on the proxy server.”* (emphasis added). The aforementioned limitation is neither defined nor discussed in the specification. This is unclear in reference to what manner of modify the proxy representation is considered “directly,” while the user is remote from the proxy server.
- **Regarding claims 1-28, 30-56, and 58-84;** claims 1-28, 30-56, and 58-84 are dependent on either claim 1, 29, and 57, and therefore inherit 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, of the independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
9. **Claims 1-16, 19-44, 47-72, and 75-84 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over Gong, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0064733, filed on June 26, 2003, in view of DeBry, U.S. Patent No. 6,385,728, issued on May 07, 2002.

- **Regarding claim 1**, Gong discloses a method for sharing files with remote users (*par. 0009; Fig. 2*), the method comprising:
accepting, at a proxy server, a request from a file sharer to share an original version of a file with a remote user (*pars. 0009, 0020, 0029, and 0031-0034; Fig. 2; user*

sends emails with attachments through email client interface; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) receives the attachment files or documents along with identification information (descriptor and locator)), the original version of the file located at a file source inside an internal private network of the file sharer, said private network having a firewall (par. 0009; ; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can be installed inside or outside companies' firewalls);

accessing the file sharer's credentials that enable [[the proxy server]] to access the original version of the file at the file source (pars. 0009, 0030, and 0033; users can access the Client Project Information Management Web Interface to manage attachment information; login authentication is needed; sender logs into the IMS and sends email with attached documents to recipients; attached documents are stored at the IMS) inside said private network (par. 0009; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can be installed inside or outside companies' firewalls);

retrieving the original file from a directory on the file source to the proxy server (par. 0009, 0012, 0034, and 0038; Fig. 2; the attachment will be detached from the original mail message content and will be stored into a local storage area of the IMS; that implies the IMS is obtained the original file from the web-mail client/sender) by using said file sharer's credentials (par. 0009; The Information Management Server will apply document management rules/commands (such as Edit, Delete, Modify, Link, Associate, etc.) specified by the e-mail sender on the stored attachment files; recipients receive descriptor and locator to be able to access to the attached documents; permission to access

the Client Information Management Web Interface will be administrated by the original email creator or the group project organizer);

generating a proxy representation for the original version of the file on the proxy server, the proxy representation associated with the remote user and storing location information of the original version of the file on the proxy server (pars. 0009, 0031-0034, and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; a unique attachment descriptor and locator will be generated to identify the save attachment; a version controlled copy of the original attachment from the IMS; the IMS will pass the version controlled file(s) back to Adapter Engine, then to recipient local machine; the recipient can modify the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the modified version through email), wherein the location information is used to reference the original version of the file in the directory of the file source inside the internal private network (par. 0009; ; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can be installed inside or outside companies' firewalls);

enabling access to the proxy representation for the remote user that resides externally with respect to the internal private network (pars. 0009 and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; recipient(s) can access the attachment(s) directly through Client Information Management Web Interface) , wherein the remote user is allowed to modify the proxy representation directly on the proxy server (pars. 0009 and 0036-0038; recipient(s) can access the attachment(s) directly through Client Information Management Web Interface; the recipient can modify the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the modified version through e-mail or through Client Information Management Web Interface);

receiving one or more modifications to the proxy representation (*pars. 0009 and 0038; the recipient can modify the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the modified version through e-mail or through Client Information Management Web Interface*); and

using the file sharer's credentials to update the original version of the file in said directory at the file source (*pars. 0009, 0012, 0033, and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; recipient(s) can access the attachment(s) directly through Client Information Management Web Interface; recipient is able to edit and update attached documents*) inside the internal private network (*par. 0009; ; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can be installed inside or outside companies' firewalls*) from where the original version of the file was retrieved based on the modifications to the proxy representation received at the proxy server by using the location information (*pars. 0009, 0012, 0033, and 0037-0038; Fig. 2; all users having rights to access the attachments will receive e-mail notifications for any version or content update of a file; IMS will manage and log all check-in, checkout and modification activities related to the attachment, and maintain one updated master copy*).

Gong discloses accessing credentials that enable to access the file, but does not explicitly disclose accessing credentials, that enable the proxy server to access the file at the file sources;

However, in an analogous art, DeBry discloses a method for retrieving a file from a file source including step of accessing credentials, that enable the proxy server to access the file at the file sources (*DeBry; abstract; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Fig. 5; wherein at least steps 506-507 and 515-525; user sends digital certificate 506*

to publisher/server (digital library 10); the printer server 30 is able to obtain document in Cryptolope, 520, from the digital library 10);

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of DeBry with the method and system of Gong to include step of accessing credentials, that enable the proxy server to access the file at the file sources to enable a client system to pass authorization, received from a file source, to a printer to retrieve and print a file directly from the file source without the client system ever receiving a copy of the file (*DeBry: abstract; col. 1, lines 29-33*).

- **Regarding claim 2**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong and DeBry further disclose accessing the credentials comprises accepting the credentials from the file sharer (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033; users can access and change the environment setting by login through Client Information Management Web Interface; DeBry: col. 7, lines 43-54; col. 9, lines 5-27; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5*).

- **Regarding claim 3**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong and DeBry further disclose accessing the credentials comprises retrieving previously stored credentials (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033; DeBry: col. 7, lines 43-54; col. 9, lines 5-27; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5*).

- **Regarding claim 4**, Gong discloses the method of claim 1.

Gong and DeBry further disclose using the credentials to store a cached copy of the file in association with the proxy representation (*Gong: pars. 0009, 0031, and 0033-0036; DeBry: col. 7, lines 43-54; col. 9, lines 5-27; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5*).

- **Regarding claim 5**, Gong discloses the method of claim 1.

Gong and DeBry further disclose storing the credentials in association with the proxy representation (*Gong: par. 0009 and 0034; permission to access the Client Information Management Web Interface will be administrated by the original email creator; IMS will manage and log all check-in, checkout and modification activities related to the attachment; DeBry: col. 7, lines 43-54; col. 9, lines 5-27; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5*).

- **Regarding claim 6**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong further discloses accepting a view request from the remote user (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0035-0036; Fig. 2*); and enabling the remote user to view the file (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036; Fig. 2*).

- **Regarding claim 7**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong further discloses accepting a share request from the remote user (*Gong: pars. 0009, 0020-0021, and 0029; Fig. 2; mail client sends a messages with attachment to a recipient*); and enabling the remote user to share the file with a third party (*Gong: pars.*

0009, 0021-0023, 0031-0036; Fig. 2; recipient gets the message and requires downloading the attached file(s)).

- **Regarding claim 8,** Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong further discloses accepting an email request from the remote user (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029*); and transmitting an email associated with the file (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029*).

- **Regarding claim 9,** Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

DeBry further discloses accepting a print request from the remote user (*DeBry: col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5; wherein at least step 515*); and transmitting a print request associated with the file to a remote print service (*DeBry: col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5; wherein at least step 520-525*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of DeBry with the method and system of Gong to include step of accepting a print request from the remote user; and transmitting a print request associated with the file to a remote print service to enable a client system to pass authorization, received from a file source, to a printer to retrieve and print a file directly from the file source without the client system ever receiving a copy of the file (*DeBry: abstract; col. 1, lines 29-33*).

- **Regarding claim 10,** Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

DeBry further discloses accepting a fax request from the remote user (*DeBry: col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; col. 12, lines 14-21; Figs. 1, 4, and 5; wherein at*

least step 520-525; a fax machine may be understood to be a printer in the context of this invention); and transmitting a fax request associated with the file to a remote fax service (DeBry: col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; col. 12, lines 14-21; Figs. 1, 4, and 5; wherein at least step 520-525; a fax machine may be understood to be a printer in the context of this invention).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of DeBry with the method and system of Gong to include step of accepting a fax request from the remote user; and transmitting a fax request associated with the file to a remote fax service to enable a client system to pass authorization, received from a file source, to a printer to retrieve and print a file directly from the file source without the client system ever receiving a copy of the file (DeBry: abstract; col. 1, lines 29-33).

- **Regarding claim 11**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong further discloses the request comprises a request generated by:

viewing a representation of the file within a graphical user interface (*Gong: pars.*

0009 and 0029; a dynamic link of all projects (attachment related) to which a user subscribed will be conveniently displayed on email or web-mail client interface);

selecting the representation of the file within the graphical user interface (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029; user sends emails with attachments through email client interface (Outlook, etc.) or web browser based web-mail client interface (Hotmail, etc.)*);

viewing a menu associated with the file, the menu displaying actions that can be performed on the file (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029*); and

selecting a share option from the menu (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029*).

- **Regarding claim 12**, Gong discloses the method of claim 1.

Gong further discloses generating the proxy representation comprises generating a proxy representation configured to enable the remote user to modify the file (*Gong: pars. 0009, 0033-0034, and 0038*).

- **Regarding claim 13**, Gong discloses the method of claim 1.

Gong further discloses generating the proxy representation comprises generating a proxy representation configured to enable the remote user to read the file (*Gong: pars. 0009, 0033-0034, and 0038*).

- **Regarding claim 14**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong and DeBry further disclose storing credentials comprises accepting the credentials from the file sharer (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033; DeBry: col. 7, lines 43-54; col. 9, lines 5-27; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5*).

- **Regarding claim 15**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong further discloses determining if a database entry associated with the remote user is stored on an account database (*Gong: pars. 0009, 0030, and 0033*).

- **Regarding claim 16**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 15.

Gong further discloses storing the proxy representation in association with the database entry associated with the remote user in response to a positive determination

(Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029-0036; after successfully logging into user's email account, the user is able to either send email with attachments or downloading the attached file).

- **Regarding claim 19**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong further discloses accepting a retrieval request from the remote user (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0035-0038*).

- **Regarding claim 20**, Gong discloses the method of claim 19.

Gong and DeBry further disclose using the credentials to retrieve the file (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033-0037; DeBry: col. 7, lines 43-54; col. 9, lines 5-27; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5*).

- **Regarding claim 21**, Gong discloses the method of claim 19.

Gong and DeBry further discloses the retrieval request includes authentication information for the remote user (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033-0037; DeBry: col. 7, lines 43-54; col. 9, lines 5-27; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5*).

- **Regarding claim 22**, Gong discloses the method of claim 19.

Gong further discloses providing access to a cached version of the file (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038*).

- **Regarding claim 23**, Gong discloses the method of claim 19.

Gong further discloses accepting a modification request from the remote user (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038*).

- **Regarding claim 24**, Gong discloses the method of claim 23.

Gong further discloses the modification request includes authentication information (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038*).

- **Regarding claim 25**, Gong discloses the method of claim 23.

Gong further discloses using the credentials to modify the file (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038*).

- **Regarding claim 26**, Gong discloses the method of claim 23.

Gong further discloses modifying a cached version of the file in response to the modification request (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038*); and notifying the file sharer that the cached version has been modified (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0038; all users having rights to access the attachments will receive email notifications for any version or content update of a file*).

- **Regarding claim 27**, Gong discloses the method of claim 26.

Gong further discloses synchronizing the file with the cached version in response to a request from the file sharer (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038*).

- **Regarding claim 28**, Gong discloses the method of claim 25.

Gong further discloses notifying the file sharer that the file has been modified (*Gong: pars. 0009 and 0038; all users having rights to access the attachments will receive email notifications for any version or content update of a file*).

- **Regarding claim 29**, Gong discloses a system for sharing files with remote users (*par. 0009; Fig. 2*), the system comprising:

a proxy server that includes a proxy database storing proxy representations, the proxy database being embodied in a computer readable storage medium, wherein the proxy representations configured to enable access to files for remote users (*pars. 0009 and 0029-0031; Fig. 2*); and

a proxy stored on the computer readable storage medium and configured to:

accept, at the proxy server, a request from a file sharer to share an original version of a file with a remote user (*pars. 0009, 0020, and 0029; Fig. 2; user sends emails with attachments through email client interface*), the file located at a file source inside an internal private network of the file sharer, said private network having a firewall (*par. 0009; ; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can be installed inside or outside companies' firewalls*);

access the file sharer's credentials that enable [[the proxy server]] to access the original version of the file at the file source (*pars. 0009, 0030, and 0033; users can access the Client Project Information Management Web Interface to manage attachment information; login authentication is needed*) inside said private network (*par. 0009; ; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can be installed inside or outside companies' firewalls*);

retrieve the original file from a directory on the file source to the proxy server (*par. 0009, 0012, 0034, and 0038; Fig. 2; the attachment will be detached from the original mail message content and will be stored into a local storage area of the IMS; that*

implies the IMS is obtained the original file from the web-mail client/sender) by using said file sharer's credentials (par. 0009; The Information Management Server will apply document management rules/commands (such as Edit, Delete, Modify, Link, Associate, etc.) specified by the e-mail sender on the stored attachment files; recipients receive descriptor and locator to be able to access to the attached documents; permission to access the Client Information Management Web Interface will be administrated by the original email creator or the group project organizer);

generate a proxy representation for the original version of the file on the proxy server (pars. 0009, 0031-0034, and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; a unique attachment descriptor and locator will be generated to identify the save attachment; a version controlled copy of the original attachment from the IMS);

enable access to the proxy representation for the remote user that resides externally with respect to the internal private network (pars. 0009 and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; recipient(s) can access the attachment(s) directly through Client Information Management Web Interface), wherein the remote user is allowed to modify the proxy representation directly on the proxy server(pars. 0009 and 0036-0038; recipient(s) can access the attachment(s) directly through Client Information Management Web Interface; the recipient can modify the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the modified version through e-mail or through Client Information Management Web Interface);

receive one or more modifications to the proxy (pars. 0009 and 0038; the recipient can modify the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the modified version through e-mail or through Client Information Management Web Interface); and

use the file sharer's credentials to update the original version of the file (*pars. 0009, 0012, 0033, and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; recipient(s) can access the attachment(s) directly through Client Information Management Web Interface; recipient is able to edit and update attached documents*) located at the file source inside the internal private network (*par. 0009; ; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can be installed inside or outside companies' firewalls*) from where the original version of the file was retrieved based on the modifications to the proxy received at the proxy server (*pars. 0009, 0012, 0033, and 0037-0038; Fig. 2; all users having rights to access the attachments will receive e-mail notifications for any version or content update of a file; IMS will manage and log all check-in, checkout and modification activities related to the attachment, and maintain one updated master copy*).

Gong discloses accessing credentials that enable to access the file, but does not explicitly disclose accessing credentials, that enable the proxy server to access the file at the file sources;

However, in an analogous art, DeBry discloses a method for retrieving a file from a file source including step of accessing credentials, that enable the proxy server to access the file at the file sources (*DeBry; abstract; col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Fig. 5; wherein at least steps 506-507 and 515-525; user sends digital certificate 506 to publisher/server (digital library 10); the printer server 30 is able to obtain document in Cryptolope, 520, from the digital library 10*);

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of DeBry with the method and

system of Gong to include step of accessing credentials, that enable the proxy server to access the file at the file sources to enable a client system to pass authorization, received from a file source, to a printer to retrieve and print a file directly from the file source without the client system ever receiving a copy of the file (*DeBry: abstract; col. 1, lines 29-33*).

- **Regarding claims 30-44**, claims 30-44 are similar in scope to claims 2-16, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.
- **Regarding claims 47-56**, claims 47-56 are similar in scope to claims 19-28, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.
- **Regarding claim 57**, claim 57 is similar in scope to claims 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.
- **Regarding claims 58-72**, claims 58-72 are similar in scope to claims 2-16, respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.
- **Regarding claims 75-84**, claims 75-84 are similar in scope to claims 19-28, respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

10. **Claims 17-18, 45-46, and 73-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over Gong and DeBry, as applied to claims 1, 29, and 57 above, in view of Jhingan et al., (hereinafter “Jhingan”), U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0186851, filed on March 21, 2003.

- **Regarding claim 17**, Gong and DeBry disclose the method of claim 15.

Gong does not explicitly disclose generating a new database entry associated with the proxy representation for the remote user in response to a negative determination.

However, in an analogous art, Jhingan discloses a method for email attachment distribution, wherein generating a new database entry associated with the proxy representation for the remote user in response to a negative determination (*Jhingan: par. 0057; in situation where the recipient system 102 does not exists, then a new user profile is created for which the user can submit a password and preferred location for future deliveries*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Jhingan with the method and system of Gong and DeBry, to include generating a new database entry associated with the proxy representation for the remote user in response to a negative determination to provide user with a means for enabling collaboration through large email attachment (*Jhingan: par. 0008*).

- **Regarding claim 18**, Gong, DeBry, and Jhingan disclose the method of claim 17.

Jhingan further discloses transmitting an email containing a registration key to the remote user (*Jhingan: par. 0034; the locator object may be embedded as a linked object with the email and sent to a recipient system 102; the attachment associated with the locator code may be downloaded from a server to the recipient system 102*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Jhingan with the method and system of Gong and DeBry, to include transmitting an email containing a registration key to the remote user to provide user with a means for enabling collaboration through large email attachment (*Jhingan: par. 0008*).

- **Regarding claims 45-46**, claims 45-46 are similar in scope to claims 17-18, respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claims 73-74**, claims 73-74 are similar in scope to claims 17-18, respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luu Pham whose telephone number is 571-270-5002. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel L. Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information

for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Luu Pham/
Examiner, Art Unit 2437

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2437